



CITY OF HOLLISTER

Send All Mail To:

375 Fifth Street • Hollister, CA 95023-3876

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT UTILITIES DIVISION

Office Location: 1321 South Street • (831) 636-4377 Fax: (831) 634-4946

April 15, 2016

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua potable.

Por favor hable con alguien que lo traduzcir.

City of Hollister Water System Has Levels of Disinfection Byproducts Above Drinking Water Standards

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did to correct the situation. Please share this information with other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly. You can do this by posting this notice in a public place and by giving out copies by hand or mail.

What happened?

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. To protect drinking water from disease-causing organisms, or pathogens, a disinfectant is added to drinking water. However, disinfection byproducts can form when organic-rich water is disinfected. A major challenge is how to control and limit risks from pathogens, maintain sufficient chlorine level to help to remove iron and manganese, and minimize disinfection byproduct formation at the same time. Disinfection byproducts tend to be highest during periods of long detention time in storage tanks. As a result of disinfection process, we have exceeded the MCL of TTHM. Testing results from January 2015 through March 2016 show that our system exceeds the standard; or maximum contaminant level (MCL) for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM). The standard for TTHM is 80 micrograms per liter (ug/L). It is determined by averaging all samples collected by our system over the last 12 months. The level of TTHMs averaged at our system over the last 5 calendar quarters was 81.9 ug/L. This is above the drinking water standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 80 ug/L.

What should I do?

- **You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.**
- This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, *some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience liver, kidney, or central nervous system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.*
- If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What is being done?

To correct this problem, we are working with experts to determine if physical changes to our water system will lower the risk of developing these byproducts of the chlorination process. In the short term, we have identified the locations where the disinfection byproducts exceedances are most likely to occur, and we are releasing water to reduce the detention time in an effort to minimize the chance of an exceedance happening again in the future. Also, the City of Hollister is being environmentally mindful of the State of California's drought, and we are using a water truck to move the water and use it on municipal landscape.

If you have any questions regarding this notification, please contact the City of Hollister Utilities Division at (831) 636-4377 for assistance.

Sincerely,

City of Hollister

Danny Hillstock, P.E.